

from performance in organizational leadership and management to strategic planning and community contribution. It is excellence in these areas that characterize a Carey Award winner. The Loma Linda Medical Center has proven year after year that it not only exhibits these specific qualities but also performs them at the highest possible level.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I join today with the residents of the Inland Empire in congratulating our valued VA Medical Center for its remarkable achievement, and express my sincere admiration and deference to this magnificent medical center.

TRIBUTE TO REV. E. K. BAILEY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 28, 2003

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of one of Dallas's finest people, my good friend Rev. E. K. Bailey.

Reverend Bailey, founder and pastor of Concord Missionary Baptist Church in Dallas, dedicated his life to the betterment of the city of Dallas. Dr. Bailey founded Concord in 1975 with fewer than 200 members and quickly turned it into one of the city's most vibrant African-American churches. Its current membership numbers 3,500.

In 1989, he founded E. K. Bailey Ministries Inc., a progressive non-profit organization that helps black pastors and lay leaders improve their own churches. He was a tireless public advocate who was not afraid to fight for his constituents. Dr. Bailey's accomplishments are great. When Dr. Bailey tackled a project, no matter how challenging, he did so with enthusiasm, vigor, and integrity.

He will long be remembered for his mission to provide the basic principles and practices of Biblical church growth to African American pastors and lay leaders in order to empower and revitalize African American churches to impact the world for personal and social change. Based in part upon the name recognition of Dr. E. K. Bailey in the African American community and the needs the organization was designed to meet, this ministry found instant credibility. At its first conference—Discipline and Developing the African American Male—over 600 men came to Dallas to learn and acquire resources to take back to their churches.

Above all else, Reverend Bailey was a devoted father and loving husband. Dr. Bailey is survived by his wife, Sheila, and their three grown children. Those who knew Reverend Bailey well understood that the time he spent with his wife and family were the greatest times of his life. After 33 years of marriage and three cancer diagnoses, he said "If I found myself in a ship, or on a ship, in the middle of a storm, there's only one person I'd want on that ship with me, and that's Sheila Bailey," he said.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Reverend E. K. Bailey. And I join with the city of Dallas and the State of Texas in mourning the loss of an outstanding citizen and friend.

HONORING BOB VAN WYK

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 28, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bob Van Wyk for his 30 years service to the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District. A celebration in Mr. Van Wyk's honor will be held on Thursday, November 6th in Fresno, California.

In 1973, Bob completed a degree in Public Administration at California State University, Fresno. He was hired as an administrative assistant for the Flood Control District; however, he served most of his career as Assistant General Manager. In 2003, the Flood Control District's Board of Directors appointed Mr. Van Wyk Acting General Manager.

Bob has given much of his time to agencies that address the needs of the Flood Control District's constituents. He has served as District Representative to the Board of Directors of the Joint Powers Insurance Authority and has been a member of the Association of California Water Agencies Special District Advisory Task Force. His service as a community partner and respected agency representative has established productive, long-lasting agreements throughout Fresno County. These agreements have allowed the county to use the Flood Control District's facilities as parks, groundwater recharge sites, and community open spaces.

Bob's accomplishments have been numerous over the last 30 years, but he is most noted for his amiable character. His choice to treat people with respect and dignity has allowed him to see value in each person he meets. This kind demeanor has played a major role in his many successful years with the Flood Control District.

Mr. Speaker, Bob Van Dyk's 30 years of service to the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District and surrounding communities has not gone unnoticed. I invite my colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Van Dyk and wishing him continued success.

HONORING THE GENEROSITY OF THE PEOPLE OF LAUGHLIN

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 28, 2003

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank the people of Laughlin, Nevada and Bullhead City, Arizona for their generous contributions to the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Colorado River. More than 400 people gave out of their pockets at the 2003 Margarita Fiesta and 10K Giveaway held at the River Palms Convention Center to raise more than \$24,000 for the Boys and Girls Clubs, a 20 percent increase over last year. These funds will be used to give young men and women of every background an opportunity to play and learn in a safe, caring, environment.

Once again Laughlin has proven that it is more than just a vacation resort, it is also a place to call home. I am honored to represent the generous people of Laughlin and look forward to next year's Fiesta.

HONORING DEANNA ESPINA, SAN LORENZO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PROGRAM SPECIALIST

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 28, 2003

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Deanna Espina, who recently retired from the San Lorenzo Unified School District. Deanna will be honored at a reception and I join her friends and associates in thanking her for her many years of contributions.

Deanna began her 29 year career with the San Lorenzo Unified School District on October 14, 1974, as a community Relations Aide. After a few years, her classification was changed to Native American Indian Program Specialist assigned to Educational Services.

She has supervised various programs and also teaches youngsters about the Native American culture. She was always seeking innovative instructional strategies for students as evidenced by the Star-Lab lesson. The numerous hours spent preparing, organizing and coordinating the Star-Lab presentation for hundreds of students contributed to the Star-Lab Program's success.

With the San Lorenzo School District's support, Deanna has developed and advanced the Indian Education Program in the San Lorenzo schools in a commendable way. The Alameda County Office of Education has recognized her for the outstanding work she has done in meeting the needs of Native American students. She has played a significant role by providing leadership to sustain and foster a Native American Program that continually has value for students and the community.

Over 29,000 students, parents and teachers have participated in the Native American Museum, established in the San Lorenzo School District, due to the efforts of Deanna. The museum's presentations focus on many Native American cultures with emphasis on California's indigenous people. The school district's Native American program has been recognized at the federal, state and local levels and is a model for other Native American Programs in the United States.

Deanna's leadership, her knowledge of her projects, her enthusiasm, and commitment to the community through the years are exemplary. She has brought Native American Indian Education to the forefront and I applaud her outstanding contributions to education.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF JOHN MCNIFF

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 28, 2003

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the life and work of an exceptional individual who I am proud to represent in Congress, Bloomfield Police Chief John McNiff. Chief McNiff was honored by the Essex County Policemen's Benevolent Association on Friday, October 24, 2003, for his tireless commitment to serving his community.

Chief John McNiff has dedicated the past seventeen years to guaranteeing the safety